GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:522
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
NEW FOREIGN CHANNELS
N.T. SHANMUGAM

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accorded their approval to start new foreign channels in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the time by which these channels are likely to be commenced;

(d) the extent to which these channels are useful to the people of this country;

(e) whether the Government have any statistics about the popularity of the Indian Channels; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.522 FOR ANSWE 2.5.2002.

(a) to (f): The Government does not accord approval for starting new channels. However, it gives permission to uplink channels from India. So far, the Government has permitted 56 channels to uplink from India. During the current year, 2002 four (4) channels have been permitted. A list of these channels is at Annexure-I. The Government is not maintaining data on the commencement dates of the TV channels. But as per available information, most of these channels have commencedoperation. Apart from providing entertainment, news and current affairs programme to the people, uplinking of these channels from India helps in conserving foreign exchange and generating economic activities. There is no arrangement to determine the popularity or usefulness of various channels.

LIST OF TV CHANNELS PERMITTED TO UPLINK THEIR PROGRAMMES FROM INDIA

Sl.No.	Name of the Companies	Name of the Channels	Date of Permission
1	Mavis Satcom (Jaya TV) Pvt. Ltd.	JAYA TV	30.3.2000
2	Malayalam Communication Ltd.	KAIRALI	1.1.2002
3	Vijay Broadcasting Co. Pvt. Ltd.	VIJAY	9.4.2001
4	TV Today Network Ltd.	INDIA TODAY	4.12.2000
5	SUN TV Ltd.	SUN TV, SUN NEWS, SURYA TV, SURYA NEWS, SCV, SUN-II, SURYA-II, USHE TV, UDAYA NEWS, TEJA NEWS, GEMINI TV, TEJA TV, KTV	26.3.2001
6	Jain Studios Ltd.	JAIN TV	4.1.2001
7	Asianet Communications Ltd.	ASIANET (ANALOG) MALAYALAM, ASIANET GLOBAL(DIGITAL) ASIANET (DIGITAL) MALAYALAM	13.6.2001 19.6.2001 18.7.2001
8	Udaya TV Ltd.	UDAYA TV, UDAYA TV-II	10.4.2001
9	Technology Media Group (P) Ltd.	TMG ENTER,	14.6.2001
10	Sky (B) Bangla Pvt. Ltd.	AKASH TV	12.4.2001
11	Ushodaya Enterprises Ltd.	ETV TELUGU, ETV BENGALI, ETV MARATHI, ETV KANNADA (IN ANALOG & DIGITAL MODE),	

ETV URDU, ETV ORIYA,
ETV GUJURATI (IN DIGITAL 6.6.2001
MODE ONLY)

ETV UP (HINDI)
ETV MP (HINDI)
ETV RAJASTHAN (HINDI)
ETV BIHAR (HINDI)
ETV PUNJABI
ETV TAMIL
ETV ASSAMI
ETV MALAYALAM 20.11.2001

12 Raj TV Network Ltd. RAJ TV, RAJ DIGITAL PLUS 29.3.2001
13 Intelivision Ltd. SPLASH TV, NUM TV 15.6.2001
14 STV Enterprises Ltd. PUNJAB TODAY 5.12.2001
15 ZEE TELEFILMS LTD. ALPHA MARATHI
ALPHA GUJARATI
ALPHA BANGLA
ALPHA PUNJABI
ZEE NEWS
ZEE MUSIC
ZED TV 6.12.2001
16. Entertainment Television
Network Pvt. Ltd Etc- Hindi
Etc- Punjabi 5.2.2002
17. Maa Television Network Ltd. MAA TV 9.4.2002
18. Diksaat Transworld Ltd. WIN TV 11.4.2002